Sentiment Analysis for Stock Market Prediction Proposal

Project Overview

The aim of the project is to create a 2- layered machine learning system in which the first layer performs the retrieval and extraction of domain-specific sentiment from news articles. Sentiment is described in terms of the estimated value of the entity based on the article as well as the emotions evoked by the article. The sentiment is then pooled with other relevant attributes as features into a classifier to result in a predicted stock market price.

Project Background

It is well understood that stock market price is determined by the value that the market places on the stock and in turn, this is determined by what the perceived value of the company's assets are. Hence, predicting the stock market can be broken down further into "predicting the perceived value of assets." In the age of blogs and online news websites that publish news articles as soon as they are known, determining the perceived value becomes a lot easier. The main outcome of the system will be to determine whether or not the performance of SVM based stock market prediction can be aided by the inclusion of sentiment as one of the features.

External Aspect

A research paper detailing the results of the proposed research will be coauthored with my supervisor, Michel Valster.

Objectives

- 1. Build a sentiment analyser that will take as input content from online news blogs and will produce as an output the sentiment polarity and strength.
- 2. Build a classifier which will take in as input the output from the sentiment analyser as well as other suitable features in order to make a prediction of the stock market value
- 3. Determine the performance of the classifier against that of traditional classifiers that do not take into account the sentiment.
- 4. Determine the performance of classifier against that of newer stock market price classifiers that do not take into factor other features such as momentum, relative strength index, commodity channel index and other features as identified.

Programming Languages and Libraries

Python will be used to program all parts of the system including the scipy, numpy, nltk and libsvm libraries. This is because the Python programming language make the manipulation of raw data very easy.

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Time Estimates

